

The Oregon Birding Trails Working Group invites the public to the following outreach meetings to introduce local communities to the **Oregon Cascades Birding Trail**:

Monday, September 30, 7:00 pm, at Cascadia Village in Sandy

From Sandy, go south about 1 mile on Hwy 211, then left on Bornstede. Take the first left, which is Cascadia Village Drive. Drive through the housing community until you see the Cascadia Village Center at the top of the hill on the left. Phone is (503)668-0300

Tuesday, October 1, 7:00 pm, at the Best Western Hood River Inn in Hood River, 1108 East Marina Way

Wednesday, October 2, 7:00 pm, at the Best Western Inn & Suites in Bend, 721 NE Third Street near Franklin

Thursday, October 3, 7:00 pm, at Upper McKenzie Community Center in McKenzie Bridge

Friday, October 4, 7:00 pm, at Detroit City Hall off Highway 22 in downtown Detroit

The Oregon Cascades Birding Trail will be a 1,000-mile driving loop encircling Oregon's Cascade Mountains by May 2003. The "trail" will link up to 100 current birding sites along existing highways and byways to feature the diversity of birds, birding opportunities, and scenic wonders throughout the region.

The public meetings will feature a presentation on birding tourism by Ted Eubanks, one of the founders of the nation's largest birding trail, which is located in coastal Texas. Eubanks will present an overview of nature-based tourism, and he will discuss the proven economic benefits of birding trail projects around the United States.

Project organizers will display maps of the proposed Cascades route. They also will share the variety of opportunities and benefits of community involvement, including site nominations, public education and habitat conservation.

The meeting is open to the public. For more information on the Oregon Cascades Birding Trail or the public meetings, contact Stephen Shunk at 541-408-1653 or Bob Altman 541-745-5339 or visit the project web site at [www.oregonbirdingtrails.org](http://www.oregonbirdingtrails.org).

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